

BUILDING

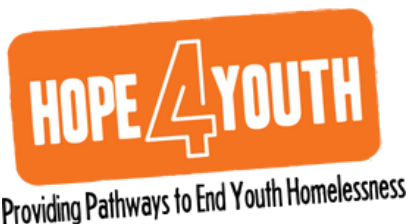


HOPE



TOGETHER

HOPE 4 Youth is a nonprofit organization in Anoka County which helps young people ages 16 to 24 who are experiencing homelessness. Our name is an acronym for our focus areas: Housing, Outreach, Prevention, and Education/Employment.



Dear Friends of HOPE 4 Youth,

Thank you for standing alongside HOPE 4 Youth. Your partnership as a community collaborator, committed volunteer, or generous donor made it possible for us to advance our promise to provide pathways to end youth homelessness. **Together, we are helping young people move from crisis toward stability, opportunity, and hope.**

In 2025, HOPE 4 Youth supported **878 young people** with a focus on housing stability, education and employment connections, and social and emotional well-being. At the heart of this work is our belief in relationship-centered support. Through one-on-one connections, youth-defined goal setting, skill building, and the strengthening of healthy relationships, we see lives change. The resilience and determination of the young people we serve continue to inspire and guide our work.

WE PARTNERED WITH
204
AGENCIES FOR SERVICES
AND RESOURCES

This impact is made possible through the dedication of our community partners, the compassion of our volunteers, and the generosity of our donors. Each plays a vital role in every success story, milestone reached, and life changed. In 2026, **we will finalize construction on our new facility in Blaine**, doubling our space and expanding our ability to serve and empower young people. We are deeply grateful to those who have leaned into this vision by bringing expertise, time, advocacy, and resources to ensure this space becomes a true beacon of hope for youth in our community.

In this milestone year, our focus remains on building momentum while expanding impact and outcomes. We invite you to join us in this important chapter. Together, we will continue to foster stability, extend opportunities, and **Build HOPE.**



In unending gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "LaChelle Williams".

LaChelle Williams
Executive Director
HOPE 4 Youth

OUR MISSION

To provide pathways to end youth homelessness

OUR VISION

All youth will feel safe, valued, and supported while reaching their full potential. This begins with meeting their basic needs and leads to giving them the tools to thrive.

OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

- 1 Provide life-enhancing programs empowering youth to reach their full potential.
- 2 Engage in transformational partnerships with community leaders, donors, and volunteers.
- 3 Laser focus on premier staff retention and operational improvement.
- 4 Select location and determine funding and operational plans for new HOPE 4 Youth Center.

OUR CORE VALUES



Resourceful

We collaborate to maximize resources and evolve to meet the changing needs of our participants and the community.



Accountable

We operate with integrity and are accountable to our youth, volunteers, community, donors, and employees.



Inclusive

We respect and embrace differences as a strength, allowing people to bring their full, authentic selves to HOPE 4 Youth.



Hopeful

We communicate and operate with optimism and believe in a bright future for the youth we serve and our community.



Compassionate

We serve and work with empathy and understanding to create a judgment-free environment.

OUR APPROACH

The young people we see at HOPE 4 Youth (H4Y) carry many burdens. We recognize that every young person is on their own path where no two stories are the same. We are one touchpoint on their personal journey. As such, we have a four-fold approach¹ when walking alongside youth:

- 1) Trauma-Informed Care (TIC):** Our staff is trained in TIC service delivery models. Rather than fixing what's wrong, we look at youth in terms of what has happened to them — specifically lived trauma. TIC helps us create safe spaces, build trust, and encourage youth to regain healthy responsibility.
- 2) Strengths-Based:** Many youth experiencing homelessness have been in ongoing survival mode or endured trauma that has removed their fundamental sense of choice. At intake, Youth Coordinators empower youth to set goals based on their strengths and areas where they can regain control for long-term self-sufficiency.
- 3) Client-Centered:** Effective solutions must be informed by the youth we serve. The H4Y *Youth Advisory Council* provides youth the space to make recommendations for program improvement with an emphasis on including the voice of marginalized groups.
- 4) Harm Reduction:** Ending youth homelessness relies on the important framework of harm reduction, where we encourage youth goal-setting to reduce the negative consequences of drug use, alcohol addiction, or other high-risk behaviors. Without judgment, we offer youth resources for improved sexual, mental, physical, and emotional health.

In 2025, we served 878 youth;
a 35% increase over last year.
We provided services for 7,394 visits.

27%	Young Parents	58%	Female	4%	Non-Binary
77%	BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color)	38%	Male	22%	LGBTQ+



¹ Informed by "Measuring Up: Youth-level Outcomes and Measures for Systems Response to Youth Homelessness" from the University of Chicago, and the 2014 publication "9 Evidence-Based Principles to Help Youth Overcome Homelessness"

BUILDING HOPE

Hallie has been working towards her nursing certificate and is officially in her final semester. Even though the process has not been easy, her Youth Coordinator shares, “she is absolutely crushing it.” Hallie shared that the workload can be overwhelming, and some days it feels impossible, especially given her other responsibilities. Even with its challenges, Hallie continues to put one foot in front of the other, determined to finish what she started. She visits the HOPE 4 Youth Center regularly for basic needs support like food, clothing, and gas cards to help her get to school. One afternoon, while waiting to meet with her Youth Coordinator, she struck up a conversation with a volunteer at the front desk. She was surprised to learn the volunteer was a retired nurse. The two instantly connected over the shared language of nursing and the weight of the work. The volunteer was able to offer encouragement to help her push through the last semester. Their conversation left Hallie feeling supported, seen, and energized to navigate her future.



76% of youth are employed or taken steps toward a job or career opportunity

2

HOW HAS HOPE 4 YOUTH MADE AN IMPACT?

“HOPE 4 Youth gave me food and clothing when I needed it most. I love every time I come in and would love to volunteer one day”

“HOPE 4 Youth helped me realize it’s okay to ask for help”

“HOPE 4 Youth has always been a safe and helpful place for me to go, even if it’s just for a meal”

“I am forever grateful for their support”

“There have been times where I didn’t have enough money to do laundry. Thanks to HOPE 4 Youth, I have clean clothing”

“The community at HOPE 4 Youth is an amazing place to be, it’s more than the resources they provide”

“After bills, I can’t afford food, but thanks to HOPE 4 Youth, I can eat!”

“You’ve helped me become a better person and a better father”

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES: HOW WE BUILD HOPE

OUTREACH & PREVENTION

Our HOPE 4 Youth **Outreach and Prevention** Programming connects youth to resources and support to assist in preventing homelessness. We do this through engagement with local high schools and community outreach to connect youth with age-appropriate resources such as Host Homes, Family Crisis Management, and Housing Support.



CONNECTED
WITH YOUTH AT

21

SCHOOLS



49

YOUTH WERE CONNECTED
TO OUR SERVICES THROUGH
OUTREACH EFFORTS

150

SCHOOL OUTREACH EVENTS
ATTENDED TO ENGAGE IN
INFORMATIONAL MEETINGS, CALLS,
EVENTS, AND PRESENTATIONS

HOPE 4 YOUTH CENTER

The **HOPE 4 Youth Center** in Anoka is the hub for many of our services. It is a safe, non-judgmental place for youth ages 16 to 24 who are in need. No appointment is necessary to visit for a hot meal, clothing, hygiene items, shower, laundry facilities, etc. Our Youth Coordinators connect young people to stable housing, health and wellness programs, education and employment opportunities, and more. In addition, we offer on-site professional services with community partners who support basic needs, mental health, and social-emotional well-being.

HOPE PLACE

HOPE Place is our 12-unit transitional housing facility in Coon Rapids that offers supportive services to 18 to 24 year olds who are experiencing homelessness. HOPE Place staff and community partners provide on-site case management, including education and employment guidance, aimed at promoting self-sufficiency and long-term success.



2,925

HOURS OF ONE-ON-ONE SUPPORT



3,886

MEALS SERVED



971

CHILD VISITS OF
PARENTING YOUTH

5,352

FOOD PANTRY VISITS

2,599

CLOTHING CLOSET VISITS

ON AVERAGE, IT
COSTS \$2,481 TO
ASSIST YOUTH WITH
STABLE HOUSING.

289

HOURS OF
ONE-ON-ONE
SUPPORT

19

YOUNG PEOPLE CALLED
HOPE PLACE HOME

8

NEW RESIDENTS MOVED IN
AND STARTED WORKING
TOWARDS SELF-SUFFICIENCY



100%

OF RESIDENTS WERE
WORKING AND/OR
IN SCHOOL

5

YOUNG PEOPLE
COMPLETED THE
PROGRAM AND MOVED
INTO STABLE HOUSING

BUILDING HOPE



When **Alexis** first came to HOPE 4 Youth, she was hesitant to ask for help. She was pregnant and learned she was having a girl. When she visited the H4Y Center, she utilized basic needs services to support herself and began gathering essentials to prepare for her baby. As she became more comfortable, she opened up to her Youth Coordinator about needed support and was connected to our Child/Teen Check-up partner. Through this program, she received an at-home check-up, car seat, pack and play, and other necessities for a first-time parent. Alexis's baby arrived earlier than expected, and to her surprise, it was a boy! Alexis was able to return the clothing she collected from the H4Y Center for clothes she felt were more fitting for her baby boy. HOPE 4 Youth helped Alexis remain stable during pregnancy and provided resources she may not have otherwise known were available. Today, she is focused on building a safe, stable, and healthy life for herself and her child.

85% of youth feel their resilience to cope with stress and unforeseen situations has improved ²

Martin left his family home to escape domestic violence. He began couch-hopping, staying with friends and extended family members. Each night, he was unsure if he had a safe place to sleep. Martin considered dropping out of high school so he could work full-time to support himself. It was during this time that he connected with HOPE 4 Youth at school through our Youth Navigation Program. He built a trusting relationship with our Youth Navigator and shared his current situation. Together, they explored options and eventually connected Martin to HOPE Place. He completed the interview at HOPE Place, but learned he needed to be 18 to move in. Martin was thankful his birthday was only a few weeks away. As soon as he turned 18, he moved in. Martin has lived at HOPE Place for several months. He is back on track with school, continuing to work, and beginning to picture what his future looks like. With consistent support and a safe place to call home, Martin is able to move forward with hope.



84% of youth have a safe place to stay or have been working towards stable housing ²

DONORS & VOLUNTEERS

Our life-changing work is powered by an inspiring group of generous donors and volunteers who give money and time - often both.

1,218 Individual Donors

339 Organization and Business Donors



Our volunteers served
9,368 HOURS
valued at **\$325,913**

Outcomes:

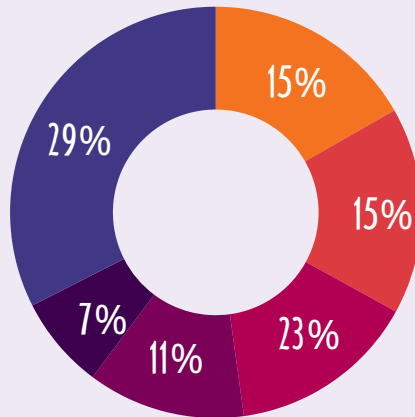
- **107,016 LBS** Essential Pantry Items Donated (Food, Hygiene, Diapers, Water, Misc.)
- **14,173 LBS** Essential Clothing Donated
- **243** Donation Drives

2025 FINANCIALS

HOPE 4 Youth is committed to transparency, efficiency, and good stewardship. Nearly, **\$0.86** of every dollar directly supports our youth.

Income

\$2,944,967
Total Income



● \$442,929
Individuals

● \$430,270
Businesses, Faith Based,
& Civic Organizations

● \$691,328
Foundations &
Government

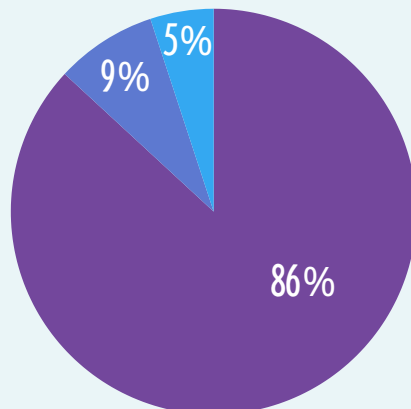
● \$328,153
Special Events

● \$193,372
Earned Income
& Investments

● \$858,915
Gift in Kind

Expenses

\$2,857,908
Total Expenses



● 2,461,145
Program

● \$249,695
Fundraising

● \$147,068
Management & General

BUILDING HOPE PROJECT

HOPE 4 Youth Center Reimagined

HOPE 4 YOUTH FUTURE

Our ability to support even more young people through our proven strategies is limited by the inability to expand at our current rental facility.

Our new HOPE 4 Youth Center in Blaine will double the space available for youth and young families who are at risk of or experiencing homelessness. Our new center in the North Metro will also expand access to our life-changing services that focus on creating:

- Ongoing basic-needs support
- Stable housing
- Employment
- Education
- Healthy connections
- Social and emotional well-being

86% of youth have developed healthier, better lasting relationships with family, friends, and other adults

2

Our new facility will bring our organization — administration, caseworkers, volunteers, and others — together to efficiently and effectively fulfill our mission, vision, and ultimate goal:

TO PROVIDE PATHWAYS TO END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS.



WITH YOUR *help*, WE CAN PROVIDE MORE *hope*.

HOPE 4 YOUTH | ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

The Building HOPE Project will expand our ability to serve young people who might otherwise go without the basic support needed to overcome social barriers and to end their experience with homelessness.

Building HOPE Capacity

- Licensed commercial kitchen for preparing healthy meals
- Large basic-needs pantry stocked with healthy foods and hygiene supplies
- Expanded display area for clothing closet donations
- Bright, roomy dining area for community lunches and dinners
- Comfortable lounge area for relaxing and socializing
- Mobile computer stations for online school, job applications, and mentorship programming
- Expanded shower, laundry, and personal storage facilities
- Sorting and overstock storage area for clothing, food, and supply donations
- Private pathway rooms for creating housing, education, and employment plans

Building HOPE Together

Interaction between our young visitors and caring adult volunteers and mentors are key to HOPE 4 Youth's vision that youth feel safe, valued, and supported while working to reach their full potential. Our new facility will allow community engagement and support to be under one roof, creating more opportunities for:

- Youth socializing activities
- Support-group meetings
- Vocational and developmental training programs
- Volunteer onboarding and training programs

This new facility will enhance our ability to collaborate with other community partners in powerful new ways, including:

- Career development programs
- Virtual mental health and wellness checks
- Parenting classes for young adults with children
- On-site medical, dental, and other services

**BUILDING
HOPE
TOGETHER**



GET INVOLVED



HOPE 4 Youth provides meaningful one-time and long-term volunteer opportunities that allow you to make a difference in the lives of the young people we serve.



Many of our youth have little or nothing when they come to us. Being able to provide food, clothing, and other items helps restore a sense of hope, self-worth, and dignity.



The support we provide is made possible, in part, by generous donors who give to support HOPE 4 Youth.

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sr. Director Enterprise Accounts & Ambulatory Surgery Centers Strategy, Medtronic, Inc.

Krista Benjamin | Vice-Chair

Manager, Executive Services, Connexus Energy

James Lyght | Treasurer

Community Lending Market Executive, SVP for Old National Bank

Linda Barnum | Secretary

Accounting Controller, Consultant

Anna VonRueden | Former Chair

Chief Strategy Officer, FamilyWise Services

Stephen Nash | Member & Building HOPE Committee Chair

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Shawn Beatty | Member

Sr. Security Sales Specialist at Microsoft

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Don Phillips | Member

Chairman of the Board, Greater Midwest Financial Group

Johnathan (J.J.) Slag | Member

CEO/ED, Feed My Starving Children

Brad Wise | Member

Anoka County Sheriff, Anoka County

Sue Woodard | Member & Strategic Steering Committee Chair

FinTech Consultant

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